

Matthew 1:1-17

A Genealogy of Redemption

Image Church // Perfect Hope Week 1

Introduction

Good morning Image Family, I hope you're doing well!

Abide and Abound Initiative... Cards in the Lobby take a second to fill them out and then drop it in the box right there next to it...

Kicking off a new series this morning called **Perfect Hope** where we're going to be doing a deep dive into the first **4 chapters** of the book of **Matthew** and looking at how Jesus is the *perfect hope*...

And there's so much goodness that Matthew gives us in these first 4 chapters that's going to help us see the uniqueness surrounding Jesus as our perfect hope...

I know this time of year can be chaotic, but I want to encourage you to journey with us as we unpack some incredibly lifegiving realities that I believe will have a profound impact on you...

We're going to start in **Chapter 1 verse 1** if you have your bibles go ahead and turn there...

Have you ever had the thought cross your mind if you're honest:

- How could God work through someone like me?
- I feel like my life is a train wreck- there's no way that God could use this mangled mess...
- I have so much sin in my now or in my past, can God really use me?
- Do you ever go through seasons where you feel disconnected from God, maybe you're in one right now... Season where

you're discouraged and don't know which way is up spiritually? And you lack confidence in God's ability to still use you?

- Do you feel burdened by your struggle with your spiritual disciplines- like how can God use me??
- Can I even have confidence that God is at work in my life?

Yeah, chances are you're there now, you've been there, or you will be there... God's got something for you this morning...

Let's jump into verse 1...

BTW: This morning you're about to see first-hand why ALL Scripture is inspired by God and useful for teaching (2 Tim. 3:16)...

Also, disclosure... I will mispronounce names...

Matthew 1:1-17

1 An account of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:

FROM ABRAHAM TO DAVID

2 Abraham fathered Isaac,

Isaac fathered Jacob,

Jacob fathered Judah and his brothers,

3 Judah fathered Perez and Zerah by Tamar,

Perez fathered Hezron,

Hezron fathered Aram,

4 Aram fathered Amminadab,

Amminadab fathered Nahshon,

Nahshon fathered Salmon,

5 Salmon fathered Boaz by Rahab,

Boaz fathered Obed by Ruth,

Obed fathered Jesse,

6 and Jesse fathered King David.

FROM DAVID TO THE BABYLONIAN EXILE

David fathered Solomon by Uriah's wife,

7 Solomon fathered Rehoboam,

Rehoboam fathered Abijah,
Abijah fathered Asa,
8 Asa fathered Jehoshaphat,
Jehoshaphat fathered Joram,
Joram fathered Uzziah,
9 Uzziah fathered Jotham,
Jotham fathered Ahaz,
Ahaz fathered Hezekiah,
10 Hezekiah fathered Manasseh,
Manasseh fathered Amon,
Amon fathered Josiah,
11 and Josiah fathered Jeconiah and his brothers
at the time of the exile to Babylon.

FROM THE EXILE TO THE MESSIAH

12 After the exile to Babylon
Jeconiah fathered Shealtiel,
Shealtiel fathered Zerubbabel,
13 Zerubbabel fathered Abiud,
Abiud fathered Eliakim,
Eliakim fathered Azor,
14 Azor fathered Zadok,
Zadok fathered Achim,
Achim fathered Eliud,
15 Eliud fathered Eleazar,
Eleazar fathered Matthan,
Matthan fathered Jacob,
16 and Jacob fathered Joseph the husband of Mary,
who gave birth to Jesus who is called the Messiah.
17 So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen
generations; and from David until the exile to Babylon, fourteen
generations; and from the exile to Babylon until the Messiah,
fourteen generations.

Bro Seriously?? You going to preach a sermon off of this... You bet... I
could breach for a year off of this...

Let me start with this... This genealogy is historical proof of Jesus...

- Some of yall are all into the genealogy thing, you want to know where you came from...

**Ultimately though, you need to see a genealogy of redemption...
God loves hitting straight licks with crooked sticks...**

Let me show you what I mean and then the implications it has for you... let's walk through some of the names listed here and let me highlight their story and how God is at work...

God brings redemption in the brokenness...

Abraham (Gen. 16)

- God makes a promise, Abraham is impatient...
- Sleeps with His wife's servant Hagar...
- Gen 17 God redemptive plan for Abraham...

Tamar (Gen 38)

- Married to Judah's son... Her husband dies before having kids...
- Obligation of the existing brother to marry (Deut. 26:5-6)...
- Onan was the brother so she goes to him...
- Well, I don't really know how to say this but the brother didn't seal the deal... He was prideful and didn't want to do this for his brother because there was no benefit for him so...
- Gen 38:9 *whenever he slept with his brother's wife, he released his semen on the ground so that he would not produce offspring for his brother.*
- So God Kills him for his pride and disobedience...
- Judah has a 3rd son... Drags his feet on this one, thinks this son might end up dying because of her as well...
- Tamar gets creative not in a good way... Dresses up like a prostitute... Turns out she knew that Judah had a weakness for prostitutes...
- He sees her, takes her and sleeps with her... she gets pregnant...

- She starts showing and Judah sees and thinks that she's been sleeping around...
- He goes to kill her, and she says wait I have the belt of the one who I slept with...
- It was Judas's belt...
 - Awkward... by the way I can only imagine how family get togethers were on this one...

Rahab (Joshua 2)

- Prostitute Canaanite prostitute that lived in Jericho...
- Hides spies for Israel... Out Jukes the King
- God spares her

Ruth

- Husband dies, goes with her mother-in-law... gleans fields...
- Poor, barely getting by with no hope of a future, but she takes a step of faith on a whim...
- Connects with the field owner Boaz in none other than an act of God... They get married boom, here she is!
- **IN the same way that God provided a way out of ruin for Naomi and Ruth He has provided a way out of ruin for you and I...**
- What we see in the book of **Ruth** is that God was orchestrating the events of history, and it's through redemptive story of Ruth that God would extend his *lovingkindness* providing a *redeemer* for the world...

BTW: And this I true for Ruth and for Rahab... Both were outsiders...

- Ruth was a Moabite... They were Pagans...
- Rahab was a Canaanite prostitute...

David (2 Samuel 11)

- Doesn't list out Bathsheba... Why, I believe it's because God didn't want us to overlook the reality of what happened... Put her name in there and we might read over it, but lay it out like it is here... David had a son with another man's wife, and we see it for what it is...

- Story...

Some of you are hurting because you come from a broken family similar in some ways where some deep and dark things happened... Some of you are ashamed of your parents...

****Jesus brings perfect hope to broken people, through broken people...***

God loves using crooked sticks to hit straight licks...

Let's talk about the implications...

A. Some of you are in unrepentant sin...

If you're in sin there are consequences in this life that come out in various ways, but take heart Jesus has taken the ultimate consequence for you... Would you turn to Him and watch as He takes your mess and turns it into a masterpiece?!

- Word for that **repent**- *flesh out*

Would you experience the grace-driven power of God... He can work through your greatest failures...

B. Some of you are far from God...

- Know about him, but never surrendered to Him...
- You know the right things to say, but your life says something different...

What you don't need is to try harder you need to trust in God's promised deliverer Jesus...

Would you see the goodness of God, that He has orchestrated time to provide a rescue for you from you sin and separation from Him?!?

Do you see that in the same why he worked through other time periods and other lives that He's doing that in yours too, you know how I know- Because you're here... I don't believe it's by accident...

For others of you it may not be that you're in unrepentant sin-
C. You're doubting the hand of God in your life... You're doubting His ability to use you...

One thing to note from the text, God doesn't use you based on your qualifications, He works in spite of your weakness...

One of the ways we say it is that God doesn't choose the equipped, He equips the ones He chooses...

- David was a little shepherd boy...
- Jacob was only able to cook a mean soup...
- Ruth was young widow who picked up leftovers from the field...
- Joseph was a carpenter and Mary was a simple woman
- The list goes on...

God loves using unimpressive unexpected people to show off His power...

Would you see more than ever that God's not left you to your own, that He's sovereignly working even if you don't see it!

- Would you allow His track record to prove that to you...
- Would you stay the course, your eyes fixed on Jesus the author and protector of your faith, ***would you trust His heart even when you can't see His hand!***
- Would you not turn away but continue to stay fixed on Him...

D. For others of you it may be that your circumstances are difficult right now and you wonder whether or not God is working... Maybe you're wondering God where are you?!?

- This was the cry of David for a large portion of his life...
- Ruth had a hard go at it for a while and Mary certainly got hit hard as her life was turned upside down...

Many others also had their share of hard knocks and yet God was working...

- Never know what God will do or when...
- Your good and His glory...

Romans 8:28: 28 *We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.*

Good? - verse 29 *to be conformed to the image of his Son*

*God's plan was about working through broken people to get to the promise which was His Son... The Son still stands at the center of God's redemptive plan for you- it's about orienting you around Him...

- Never know how God is going to do that...

God is working to orient you around himself so that you would see beyond yourself and your circumstances to who he is and what he's done and what that means for you...

- This is real freeing for us- this is a confidence that we possess *that he who began a good work will complete it!* He is the one doing the work to us and in us...

E. ebb and flow of life and falling short:

Talk about how this text has impacted me in the ebb and flow of life and falling short... not an excuse to be mediocre but a hope in the midst of lows a motivation to press on... not an it's ok you'll get them next time but a take heart...

F. Some of you have forgotten that everything is about His story...

Conclusion [VAMP]

God is working in your life to orient you around Him and His redemptive work...

I believe that God's doing that right now, you're not here by accident... For some of you it is about reorienting around Jesus...

- Some of you need to be refreshed...
- Some of you need to be reminded and encouraged that God is at work ***even if you can't feel His hand, it doesn't mean that you can't see His heart for you through His Word...***
- You're up against something, you're fighting through something, you're failing at something, God hasn't left you to your own He is working

For others it's truly embracing Him for the first time...

No one is too far gone...

Time to pray and reflect, a time to believe and repent...